
FACT SHEET

HOW TO MANAGE YOUR SCRAP TIRES

State of Hawaii Law

Chapter 342I, Part II, HRS prohibits the disposal of whole motor vehicle tires at municipal and private landfills, and the abandonment of whole motor vehicle tires on public and private properties, grounds, or waters. Instead, used whole motor vehicle tires must be delivered to tire retailers/wholesalers, or tire collection facilities or tire recyclers permitted by the Department of Health (department).



According to Chapter 342I-21, HRS, motor vehicle tires are “any tire that is used or designed for use on a motorized vehicle including but not limited to an automobile, bus, motorcycle, truck or heavy equipment.”

Problems from Abandoned Scrap Tires

Over one million new motor vehicle tires are imported into Hawaii each year. The vast majority of these imported new motor vehicle tires are used to replace old used tires on existing motor vehicles, with the remainder being tires that are already on new motor vehicles being imported into Hawaii. The disposal of these old used motor vehicle tires is a major waste disposal problem for Hawaii. Tires are bulky items and can no longer be ignored as part of the waste stream. Abandoned motor vehicle tires, whether they are abandoned on highways, roadways or on private property pose the following concerns:

- Open, unmanaged tire piles can hold rainwater for prolonged periods of time, which provides breeding grounds for mosquitos and other disease-spreading vectors; and
- Uncontrolled tire dumps in remote, vacant areas pose a fire hazard to surrounding neighborhoods.

How to Manage Scrap Tires

Residents, Businesses and Agencies:

When purchasing new tires, make sure to leave your old used tires with the tire retailer/ wholesaler from whom you are purchasing your new tires. They are required to accept your old used tires for recycling, in a quantity equal to the number of new tires you purchase. You are required to pay for tire disposal even if you decide to keep your old tires.

You may also take tires to tire recyclers permitted by the department.

(Residents only) Some county convenience centers or transfer stations accept a limited quantity of scrap tires. Check with your county solid waste division or recycling office. Contact information can be found online at <http://health.hawaii.gov/shwb/solid-waste/>.

Scrap Tire Retailers, Wholesalers & Authorized Tire Recyclers:

Chapter 342I, Part II, HRS requires you to:

- Accept used motor vehicle tires offered by customers, in a quantity equal to the number of tires purchased by the customer;
- Charge customers a final price of a new tire that includes the disposal of the old tire;
- Post written notice, at least five inches by seven inches in size, at the point of sale, which shall be easily visible to customers and contain the universal recycling symbol and the following language:
 - “It is illegal to discard a motor vehicle tire”;
 - “Recycle your used tires”;
 - “State law requires us to accept used motor vehicle tires for recycling or disposal, in exchange for new tires purchased”;
 - “The final price of a new tire includes disposal of your old tire. The disposal fee is not subject to reduction or refund.”
- Disclose whether a separate disposal fee may be added to the price of the tire and the actual cost of the disposal fee in any advertisement;
- Not discount or refund the disposal fee for the new tire purchased, even if a customer elects to keep the old used tire when purchasing a new one;
- Maintain records for a minimum of three years that provide at a minimum the following information:
 - The name, phone number, and address of the person, company, business, source, or entity from whom the used tires were received, if receiving used tires from entities other than the general public, such as tire retailers, wholesalers, transporters, collectors, and recyclers;
 - The date of receipt of the used tires;
 - The quantity of used tires received; and
 - The record of shipment indicating the:
 - Ultimate destination of the used tires;
 - Identification of the transporter;
 - Date of shipment; and
 - Quantity of tires shipped.
- Send an annual summary to the department by July 31st of each year.

Scrap Tire Transporters

If you are a motor vehicle tire transporter, you are required to maintain records and send an annual summary to the department as mentioned above and as specified in Chapter 342I, Part II, HRS.

Used tires accumulated by tire retailers/wholesalers and collection facilities shall be delivered to out-of-state tire recycling or disposal facilities or in-state tire recyclers permitted by the department.

For more information, contact the Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch:

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Honolulu, Hawaii 96801

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Fax: (808) 586-7509

<http://health.hawaii.gov/shwb/solid-waste/>

